

**THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**DE 04-189**

**ORDER OF NOTICE**

On October 13, 2004, Granite State Electric Company (GSEC) filed with the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a petition for approval of rates for Default Service for the period January 1, 2005 through October 31, 2005. GSEC requests that the Commission issue an Order Nisi approving its proposed rates effective January 1, 2005 on a bills rendered basis. Pursuant to RSA 374-F:2, Default Service is electricity supply for retail customers who are otherwise without an electricity supplier and are ineligible for Transition Service. According to GSEC, six customers are presently receiving Default Service.

Following a competitive bid process, GSEC chose Select Energy, Inc. (Select) as its Default Service provider for the period. The proposed contract with Select will result in Default Service rates that vary by month, from a high of \$0.0809 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) in January of 2005 to a low of \$0.06085 per kWh in October 2005. GSEC proposes to bill Default Service customers on a bills-rendered basis assuming 15 days of usage in the previous month and 15 days in the present month. The average Default Service rate would be approximately \$0.06832 per kWh for the period, which is slightly higher than what the average Default Service rate has been for the period May 2004 through December 2004. The proposed average Default Service rate of \$0.06832 per kWh results in an average increase of approximately two percent in the Default Service rate.

The filing raises, inter alia, issues related to whether GSEC has complied with the Default Service competitive bidding requirement of RSA 374-F:3, V(c), and whether the resulting Default Service rates are just and reasonable and consistent with the public interest.

**Based upon the foregoing, it is hereby**

**ORDERED**, that a Prehearing Conference, pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.05, be held before the Commission located at 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire on November 12, 2004 at 10:00 a.m., at which each party will provide a preliminary statement of its position with regard to the petition and any of the issues set forth in N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.05(c) shall be considered; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that, immediately following the Prehearing Conference, GSEC, the Staff of the Commission and any Intervenors hold a Technical Session to review the petition and allow GSEC to provide any amendments or updates to its filing; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that the following procedural schedule:

Prehearing Conference and Technical Session	November 12, 2004
Data Requests by Staff and Intervenors	November 19, 2004
Company Data Responses	November 30, 2004
Filing of Testimony (if any)	December 3, 2004
Hearing	December 8, 2004

is established unless otherwise ordered following the prehearing conference; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.01, GSEC shall notify all persons desiring to be heard at this hearing by publishing a copy of this Order of Notice no later than November 3, 2004, in a newspaper with statewide circulation or of general

circulation in those portions of the state in which operations are conducted, publication to be documented by affidavit filed with the Commission on or before November 12, 2004; and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin. Rule 201.05, the Commission waives, in part, the fourteen day notification requirement of N.H. Admin. Rules Puc 203.01(a); and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that pursuant to N.H. Admin Rules Puc 203.02, any party seeking to intervene in the proceeding shall submit to the Commission an original and eight copies of a Petition to Intervene with copies sent to GSEC and the Office of the Consumer Advocate on or before November 12, 2004, such Petition stating the facts demonstrating how its rights, duties, privileges, immunities or other substantial interest may be affected by the proceeding, as required by N.H. Admin Rule Puc 203.02 and RSA 541-A:32,I(b); and it is

**FURTHER ORDERED**, that any party objecting to a Petition to Intervene make said Objection on or before November 12, 2004.

By order of the Public Utilities Commission of New Hampshire this twenty-eighth day of October, 2004.

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Adele E. Leighton  
Assistant to the Executive Director

Individuals needing assistance or auxiliary communication aids due to sensory impairment or other disability, should contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, NHPUC, 21 S. Fruit St., Suite 10, Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429; 603-271-2431; TDD Access: Relay N.H. 1-800-735-2964. Notification of the need for assistance should be made one week prior to the scheduled event.